NEW RECORDS OF PREDACEOUS DIVING BEETLES (COLEOPTERA: DYTISCIDAE) IN MAINE¹

L. R. Boobar², K. E. Gibbs², J. R. Longcore³, A. M. Perillo⁴

ABSTRACT: Locations, habitat descriptions, and collection dates are listed for new records of 4 genera and 12 species of predaceous diving beetles (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) in Maine. Previously, 17 genera and 53 species of the aquatic beetle family Dytiscidae were reported from Maine.

The family Dytiscidae, the largest family of aquatic beetles in Maine, is represented by records of 17 genera and 53 species. Thirty-three species were recorded during the Biological Survey of the Mount Desert Region (Procter 1946). A survey by Malcolm (1971) yielded another 10 species, and the remaining records were obtained from Larson (1989), Zimmerman and Smith (1975), Anderson (1971), Young (1963, 1954), Mairs (1957), Hatch (1928), and Fall (1922). Our review of Dytiscidae specimens in the University of Maine Insect Collection and in ~2,500 activity trap and 400 sweep-net samples from 2 recent studies in Maine has identified new records of 4 genera (Agabetes, Hydrovatus, Matus, Neoscutopterus), and new records of 12 species (Agabetes acuductus, Acilius mediatus, A. sylvanus, Agabus erichsoni, A. phaeopterus, A. semipunctatus, Graphoderus perplexus, Hydaticus aruspex, Hydrovatus pustulatus, Matus ovatus, Neoscutopterus angustus, and Rhantus consimilis). We deposited voucher specimens in the University of Maine Insect Collection. Because more than twice as many species of Dytiscidae have been found in other states (e.g., 143 in Wisconsin, W. L Hilsenhoff, pers. commun.) and forty other species of Dytiscidae have been collected from states and provinces near Maine, additional new records certainly will be found in Maine.

Format: The sequence of information is consistent within categories (e.g., Specimen(s) collected): information for 2 ponds or 2 collection points within a pond is separated by 'and', information for >2 ponds or >2 collection points within a pond is presented as a range (e.g., 2-5 refers to 2 through 5); ? = unknown.

Specimen(s) collected — number, gender, life stage

¹ Received April 3, 1996. Accepted May 3, 1996.

² Department of Applied Ecology and Environmental Sciences, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5722.

³ Northeast Research Group, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, National Biological Service, 5768 South Annex A, Orono, ME 04469-5768.

⁴ Department of Wildlife Ecology, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5755.

- Location(s) general directions, specific x and y Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates for pond(s) {(e.g., a) pond 1 and b) pond 2; for >2 ponds an area description without specific coordinates}
- Habitat(s) type; pH is *in situ* unless stated as equilibrated (eq) pH; specific conductance; (these data are for the pond); water depth; vegetation, (these data are for collection point(s) within pond(s) unless noted otherwise)

Date(s) collected — day/month/year Identification key — reference(s)

AGABETES Crotch

A. acuductus (Harris)

Specimens collected - 50, 20 adults

Location — Massabesic Experimental Forest, Tatnic and Welch Hills area, and Cutts Island, York Co., USGS Quad. Maps - Alfred, North Berwick, and Kittery; UTMs?

Habitat — Vernal pools; pH 4.5-5.7, specific conductance, 10-40 µmhos cm⁻¹, water depths (at deepest points in pools) 14.5-90 cm; vegetation?

Dates collected — 19 Apr 95-30 May 95

ldentification key — Peckarsky et al. (1990) to monotypic genus

ACILIUS Leach

A. mediatus (Say)

Specimen collected —1 Q adult

Location — Pettingill Brook near Coffin Road, 6.5 km w. of Washburn, Aroostook Co., USGS Quad. Map - Caribou, UTMs; x571750, y518050

Habitat — Beaver flowage; eqpH 8.42; specific conductance, 294 µmhos cm⁻¹; water depth, 20 cm; vegetation, 35% grass (Gramineae) and 15% speckled alder (*Alnus incana*)

Date collected --- 8 Jul 93

Identification key — Hilsenhoff (1993)

A. sylvanus Hilsenhoff

Specimens collected — 4 Q, 6 O adults

Location — E. of Chaney Woods Rd., ? km, ? of Wells, York Co., USGS Quad. Map - North Berwick, UTMs ?

Habitat — Vernal pool; pH 5.3, specific conductance, 40 μmhos cm⁻¹; water depth (at deepest point in pool) 55 cm; vegetation, ?

Date collected — 08 July 1994

Identification key — Hilsenhoff (1993)

AGABUS Leach

A. erichsoni Gemminger and Harold

Specimens collected -- 6 Q, 3 O adults

1.ocation — Intersection of Moore Brook and Hardison Road, Caribou, Aroostook Co., USGS Quad. Map - Goodwin, UTMs; x580500, y518475

Habitat — Vernal pool; eqpH 8.04; specific conductance, 275 μmhos cm⁻¹; water depths, 13-17 cm; vegetation, 85% ash (*Fraximus* sp.) canopy with 15% emergent grass (Gramineae)

Dates collected — 16 Jun 93, 8 Jul 93

Identification key - Larson (1989)

A. phaeopterus (Kirby)

Specimens collected — 13 Q, 15 O adults

Location — Throughout a 2,500Km² area around Presque Isle, Aroostook Co.

Habitats — a) Beaver flowages; eqpH 6.49- 8.54; specific conductance, 19.7- 337 µmhos cm⁻¹; water depths, 13- 30 cm; vegetation, *Sphagnum* spp., *Scirpus* spp., *Carex* spp., and b) vemal pool; eqpH 8.04; specific conductance, 275 µmhos cm⁻¹; water depths, 13-17 cm; vegetation, 85% ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) canopy with 15% emergent grass (Gramineae)

Dates collected — a) 16 Jun 93, 8 Jul 93; b) 8 Jul 93

Identification key — Larson (1989)

A. semipunctatus (Kirby)

Specimens collected — 2 Q, 1 O adults

Locations — a) Ashland, Aroostook Co., USGS Quad. Maps - York Ridge, UTMs; x547900, y517480; and b) Bridgewater, Aroostook Co., USGS Quad. Maps - Echo Lake. UTMs; x576775, y515050

Habitats — a) Beaver flowage, eqpH 8.02; specific conductance, 63.3 µmhos cm⁻¹; water depth. 19 cm; vegetation, 40% sedge (Cyperaeeae) with 15% .Spiraea latifolia; and b) beaver flowage; eqpH 7.71, specific conductance, 40.6 µmhos cm⁻¹; water depth, 42 cm, vegetation, 60% rush (Juncaeeae) with 10% sedge (Cyperaeeae)

Dates collected — a) 8 Jul 93; b) 27 May 93

Identification key — Larson (1989)

GRAPHODERUS Dejean

G. perplexus Sharp

Specimens collected — 2 ° adults

Locations — a) Ginn Brook 6.5 km w. of Fort Fairfield following Marshall Currier Rd., Aroostook Co., USGS Quad. Map - Goodwin, UTMs; x581400, y517865; and b) Hammond Brook 6.5 km s. of Van Buren, Aroostook Co., USGS Quad. Map -Doyle Ridge, UTMs; x579500, y521250

Habitats — a) Beaver flowage; eqpH 8.56; specific conductance, 309 µmhos cm⁻¹, water depth, 45 cm vegetation, 60% *Typha latifolia*; and b) sedge meadow; eqpH 5.93; specific conductance, 13.1 µmhos cm⁻¹; water depth, 73 cm; vegetation, 10-60% *Scirpus cyperinus* and *Carex rostrata*

Dates collected — 8 Jul 93, 22 Jun 94 Identification key — Hilsenhoff (1993)

HYDATICUS Leach

H. aruspex Clark

Specimens collected — 23 ♀, 20 ♂ adults

Location — Throughout a 2,500 km² area around Presque Isle, Aroostook Co.

Habitats — a) Beaver flowages; eqpH 6.49-8.56; specific conductance, 19 7-337 μmhos cm⁻¹; water depths, 13-37 cm; vegetation, *Sphagnum* spp., *Scirpus* spp., *Carex* spp.; and b) vernal pool; eqpH 8.04; specific conductance, 275 μmhos cm⁻¹; water depths, 13-17 cm; vegetation, 85% Ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) canopy with 15% emergent grass (Gramineae)

Dates collected — a) 27 May 93 - 8 Jul 93; b) 8 Jul 93 Identification key — Roughley and Pengelly (1982)

HYDROVATUS Motschulsky

H. pustulatus (Melsheimer)

Specimen collected — 1 ♀ adult

Location — Norway, Oxford Co.; USGS Quad. Map?, UTMs?

Habitat — ?

Date collected - 3 Sep 69

Identification key — Young (1963)

MATUS Aubé

M. ovatus ovatus Leech

Specimens collected — 1 Q, 5 0 adults

Locations — a) Upland forest w. of Old County Rd. between Chicks Brook and Ogunquit River, South Berwick, York Co., USGS Quad. Map - York Harbor, UTMs?, and b) upland forest of Cutts Island, Kittery, York Co., USGS Quad. Map - Kittery, UTMs?

Habitats — a) Vernal pool; pH 4.7; specific conductance, 37 μmhos cm⁻¹; water depth (at deepest point in pool) 34 cm; vegetation, ?; and b) vernal pools; pH 5.6-5.9; specific conductance, 67 μmhos cm⁻¹; water depths (at deepest point in pools) 35-87 cm; vegetation, ?

Dates collected — a) (6 Jul 94; b) 14 Jun 94, 9 Jul 94

Identification key — Young (1953)

NEOSCUTOPTERUS Balfour-Browne

N. angustus (LeConte)

Specimen collected — 1 of adult

Location — Moosehead Lake, Piscataguis Co.; USGS Quad. Map?, UTMs?

Habitat —?

Date collected - ? Sep 68

Identification key — Larson (1975)

RHANTUS Dejean

R. consimilis Motschulsky

Specimens collected - 1 Q, 3 O adults

Location — Intersection of Moore Brook and Hardison Road, Caribou, Aroostook Co., USGS Quad. Map - Goodwin, UTMs; x580500, y518475

Habitat — Vernal pool; eqpH 8.04; specific conductance, 275 μmhos cm⁻¹, water depths, 20-48 cm, vegetation, 15-60% grass (Gramineae), *Scirpus* spp., *Carex* spp. and horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.); one half of the sites contained 10 to 15% sweetgale (*Myrica gale*)

Dates collected — 27 May 93, 8 Jul 93

Identification key — Zimmerman and Smith (1975)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Paul J. Spangler for arranging access to the Dytiscidae collection, Smithsonian Institution, and for assisting with identification of specimens. Karen M. Hopkins assisted in capturing insects preparing specimens, and identifying specimens to genus. Daniel G. McAuley, David A. Clugston, Karol Warden, and John Sinclair assisted in capturing insects, mapping wetlands, and collecting water samples. Primary funding was from The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Unit Cooperative Agreement no. 14-16-0009-1557, Research Work Order no. 23 with the University of Maine. Additional support was received from the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, contribution No. MAFES 2008.

LITERATURE CITED

- Anderson, R. D. 1971. A revision of the Nearctic representatives of *Hygrotus* (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). Annals Entomol. Soc. Am. 64:503-512.
- Fall, H. C. 1922. A review of the North American species of *Agabus*. John D Sherman, Jr, Mount Vernon, N.Y. 36pp.
- Hatch, M. H. 1928. Studies on Dytiscidae. Bull. Brooklyn Entomol. Soc. 23:217-299.
- Hilsenhoff, W. L. 1993. Dytiscidae and Noteridae of Wisconsin (Coleoptera). II. Distribution, habitat, life cycle, and identification of species of Dytiscidae. Great Lakes Entomol. 26:35-53.
- Larson, D. J. 1975. The predaceous water beetles (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) of Alberta: Systematics, natural history and distribution. Quaestiones Entomologicae 11:245-498.
- Larson, D. J. 1989. Revision of North American Agabus Leach (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae): Introduction, key to species groups, and classification of the ambiguus -, tristis -, and arcticus groups. Canad. Entomol. 121:861-919.
- Larson, D. J. and R. E. Roughley. 1991. Family Dytiscidae predaceous diving beetles. Pages 62-71 in Checklist of beetles of Canada and Alaska. Agriculture Canada, Pub. 1861/E Ottawa, Canada.
- Mairs, D. F. 1957. A study of the aquatic insects of a Maine farm pond. M. S. thesis. University of Maine, Orono. 51 pp.
- Malcolm, S. E. 1971. The water beetles of Maine: including the families Gyrinidae, Haliplidae, Dytiscidae, Noteridae, and Hydrophilidae. Life Sciences and Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Maine at Orono, Tech. Bull No. 48. 49pp.
- Peckarsky, B. L., P. R. Fraissinet, M. A. Penton, and D. J. Conlin, Jr. 1990. Freshwater macro-invertebrates of northeastern North America. Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, N.Y. 442pp.
- Procter, W. 1946. Biological Survey of the Mount Desert Region, Part VII: The insect fauna. Wistar Institute Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia. 566pp.
- Roughley, R. E. and D. H. Pengelly. 1982. Classification, phylogeny, and zoogeography of Hydaticus Leach (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) of North America. Quaestiones Entomologicae 17:249-314.
- Young, F. N. 1953. Two new species of *Matus*, with a key to the known species and subspecies of the genus (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) Annals Entomol. Soc. Am. 46:49-55.
- Young, F. N. 1954. The water beetles of Florida. University of Florida Studies, Biological Science Series Vol. V, No. 1. 238pp.
- Young, F. N. 1963. Two new North American species of *Hydrovatus*, with notes on other species (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) Psyche 70:184-192.
- Zimmerman, J. R. and R. L. Smith. 1975. The genus *Rhantus* (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae) in North America. Part 1. General account of the species. Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc. 101:33-123.